



## **Memorandum**

March 8, 2007

**TO:** Honorable Stevan Pearce  
Attention: Kathy Benedetto

**FROM:** Robert Pirog  
Specialist in Energy Economics  
Resources, Science, and Industry Division

**SUBJECT:** Wages of workers in the mining and tourism industries

This memorandum responds to your request for an update of a memorandum to the House Committee on Resources dated February 1, 2005. That memorandum showed average weekly earnings data for the overall private non-farm economy, mining, and certain aspects of tourism. The table on the following page presents updated average weekly earnings for the same industries for the years 1994, 1999, 2004 and 2006. It differs from the data in the previous memorandum in two ways. First, the data for 2004 are final and not an extrapolation based on eleven months. Second, Bureau of Labor Statistics preliminary data for 2006 are included.

As in the February 1, 2005 memorandum, certain aspects of the data may limit its usefulness for comparisons. The data are for production and non-supervisory employees and, as a result, do not include the earnings of higher paid managerial employees. The percentages of managerial employees in the selected industry segments may also vary.

Second, there is some variation in the worker groups for which the data are collected. In goods-producing industries (e.g., mining), the data include production workers only and exclude non-supervisory workers not directly involved in production. In service industries (e.g., tourism), the data are for all non-supervisory workers. The difference in definitions for inclusion might affect average earning levels.

Third, part time workers are included in the Bureau of Labor Statistics earnings data. If a particular industry segment includes a large component of part time workers, this may bias the weekly earnings report downward. Additionally, reported earnings in some aspects of tourism might be supplemented by gratuities that are not included in the data.

If you have additional questions, please call me at 7-6847.

**Average Weekly Earnings of Mining and Selected Tourism Industry Workers**

<b>Industry</b>	<b>1994</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2006</b>
Total private non-farm economy	\$390.73	\$462.49	\$529.09	\$567.90
Oil and gas extraction	650.46	801.89	807.50	920.90
Mining, except oil and gas	758.93	820.64	909.45	968.11
Scenic and sightseeing transportation	301.17	340.42	352.08	524.71
Travel arrangement and reservation service	325.82	432.84	472.18	517.85
Museums	312.70	370.66	396.49	410.41
Zoos, botanical gardens, nature parks, etc.	242.61	284.37	344.04	385.54
Amusement and theme parks	226.17	239.87	241.58	340.23
Hotels and motels, except casino hotels	225.66	268.34	301.53	346.19
RV parks and campgrounds	174.41	206.86	266.70	286.65
Full service restaurants	142.90	174.45	218.38	231.50
Limited service eating places	131.99	161.06	180.85	189.73
Drinking places, alcoholic beverages	129.19	157.80	175.35	185.49

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Employment, Hours, and Earnings from the Current Employment Statistics Survey (National), at [www.bls.gov/data](http://www.bls.gov/data).

Note: Average weekly earnings should not be multiplied by 52 to derive annual earnings. Employment in some industries is less likely to be year-round than in other industries. Also, reported earnings do not include gratuities.